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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 1

Complete If Known

Application Number	To be Assigned
Filing Date	Herewith
First Named Inventor	Hiromichi Nakata
Group Art Unit	To be Assigned
Examiner Name	To be Assigned
Attorney Docket Number	10517/191

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials *	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number - Kind Code ² (if known)			
		US-			
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials *	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ - Number ⁴ - Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
/MT/		JP A 2002-170582	6/14/2002	Yoshikazu, <i>et al.</i>		X (abstract)
/MT/		JP A 2001-351642	12/21/2001	Koretomo, <i>et al.</i>		X (abstract)
/MT/		JP A 2001-93538	4/6/2001	Masanori, <i>et al.</i>		X (abstract)

Examiner Signature	/Melissa Thompson/	Date Considered	03/15/2007
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 801.04.

³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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FORM PTO-1449
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT(S)



Atty Docket No. : 10517/191
Serial No. : 10/716,396
Inventors : Hiromichi NAKATA
Filed : November 20, 2003
Group Art Unit : 1746
Examiner : To be assigned

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

<u>Examiner</u> <u>Initial</u>	<u>Patent</u> <u>Number</u>	<u>Issue Date</u>	<u>Inventor(s)</u>

U.S. APPLICATION DOCUMENTS

<u>Examiner</u> <u>Initial</u>	<u>Application</u> <u>Number</u>	<u>Filing Date</u>	<u>Inventor(s)</u>

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

<u>Examiner</u> <u>Initial</u>	<u>Document</u> <u>Number</u>	<u>Pub. Date</u>	<u>Country</u>
<u>/MT/</u>	WO 00 40520 A1	07-13-00	WO
<u>/MT/</u>	DE 102 43 349 A1	05-28-03	DE
<u>/MT/</u>	WO 01 28020 A1	04-19-01	WO
<u>/MT/</u>	DE 199 47 858 C2	04-10-03	DE
<u>/MT/</u>	EP 1 369 942 A2	12-10-03	EP

/Melissa Thompson/

EXAMINER SIGNATURE

03/15/2007

DATE CONSIDERED

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

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Sheet 1 of 2

Complete If Known

Application Number	10/716,396
Filing Date	November 20, 2003
First Named Inventor	Hirohichi NAKATA
Group Art Unit	1746
Examiner Name	To be Assigned
Attorney Docket Number	10517/191

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

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		Country Code ³ - Number ⁴ - Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
/MT/		CN 1273699 A	11-15-2000	Fukui et al.		

Examiner
Signature

/Melissa Thompson/

Date
Considered

03/15/2007

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

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Sheet 2 of 2

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/716,396
Filing Date	November 20, 2003
First Named Inventor	Hiromichi NAKATA
Art Unit	1746
Examiner Name	To be assigned
Attorney Docket Number	10517/191

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials *	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²
/MT/		Chinese Office Action and English Translation of the Office Action	

Examiner Signature	/Melissa Thompson/	Date Considered	03/15/2007
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¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached. This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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Filing Date	November 20, 2003
First Named Inventor	Hiromichi NAKATA
Art Unit	1746
Examiner Name	Bruce F. BELL
Attorney Docket Number	10517/191

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

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		Country Code ³ - Number ⁴ - Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
/MT/	1	JP A-6-146006	05-27-1994	Sumitomo Metal Ind Ltd.		(Abs)
/MT/	2	JP-A-11-121018	04-30-1999	Nisshin Steel Co Ltd Toyota		(Abs)
/MT/	3	JP-A-2000-138067	05-16-2000	Toyota Motor Corp Toyo Kohari Co Ltd		(Abs)

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials *	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²
/MT/	5	Japanese Language Version of Official Communication letter, Appln. No. JP2002-351933, issued November 22, 2005	
/MT/	6	English Language Version of Official Communication letter, Appln. No. JP2002-351933, issued November 22, 2005	

Examiner
Signature

/Melissa Thompson/

Date
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03/15/2007

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